SYLVIA A. QUAST 1 Regional Counsel 2 EDGAR P. CORAL 3 Assistant Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX 4 75 Hawthorne Street 5 San Francisco, CA 94105 (415) 972-3898 6 7 UNITED STATES **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX** 8 9 10 In the matter of: Docket No. FIFRA-09-2021-0041 11 Bear River Supply Inc., CONSENT AGREEMENT 12 AND FINAL ORDER pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b), 13 Respondent. 22.18(b)(2), and 22.18(b)(3)14 15 I. CONSENT AGREEMENT 16 The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), Region IX, and Bear River 17 Supply Inc. ("Respondent") agree to settle this matter and consent to the entry of this Consent 18 Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO"). This CAFO simultaneously initiates and concludes this 19 proceeding in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b). 20 A. AUTHORITY AND PARTIES 21 1. This is a civil administrative action brought pursuant to Section 14(a)(1) of the Federal 22 Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act ("FIFRA"), 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)(1), for the assessment 23 of a civil administrative penalty against Respondent for violations of Sections 12(a)(1)(E), 24 12(a)(2)(L), and 12(a)(2)(S) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §§ 136j(a)(1)(E), 136j(a)(2)(L), and 25 136i(a)(2)(S). 26 2. Complainant is the Manager of the Toxics Section in the Enforcement and 27 Compliance Assurance Division, EPA Region IX, who has been duly delegated the authority to 28 bring this action and to sign a consent agreement settling this action.

Consent Agreement and Final Order In re Bear River Supply Inc.

3. Respondent is Bear River Supply Inc., a California corporation with headquarter offices located at 218 Pleasant Grove Road in Rio Oso, California, 95674.

B. STATUTORY AND REGULATORY BASIS

- 4. Under Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E), it is unlawful for any person in any state to distribute or sell to any person any pesticide that is adulterated or misbranded.
- 5. Under Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §136(s), the term "person" means "any individual, partnership, association, corporation, or any organized group of persons whether incorporated or not."
- 6. Under Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), the term "to distribute or sell" means to distribute, sell, offer for sale, hold for distribution, hold for sale, hold for shipment, ship, deliver for shipment, release for shipment, or receive and (having so received) deliver or offer to deliver.
- 7. Under Section 2(u) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §136(u), the term "pesticide" is, among other things, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
- 8. Under Section 2(q)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(q)(1)(A), a pesticide is "misbranded" if its labeling bears any statement, design, or graphic representation relative thereto or to its ingredients which is false or misleading in any particular.
- 9. Under Section 2(p)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(p)(1), the term "label" means the written, printed, or graphic matter on, or attached to, the pesticide or device or any of its containers or wrappers.
- 10. Under Section 2(p)(2)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(p)(2)(A), the term "labeling" means all labels and all other written, printed or graphic matter accompanying the pesticide or device at any time.
- 11. Under Section 12(a)(2)(L) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(L), it is unlawful for any person who is a producer to violate any of the provisions of Section 7.
 - 12. Under Section 2(w) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(w), the term "producer" means the

2.4

person who manufactures, prepares, compounds, propagates, or processes any pesticide or device or active ingredient used in producing a pesticide.

- 13. Section 7(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e(a), provides that no person shall produce a pesticide subject to FIFRA in any State unless the establishment in which it is produced is registered with the EPA.
- 14. Under Section 2(dd) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(dd), the term "establishment" means any place where a pesticide or device or active ingredient used in producing a pesticide is produced, or held, for distribution or sale.
- 15. Under Section 12(a)(2)(S) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(S), it is unlawful for any person to violate any regulation issued under Sections 3(a) or 19 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §§ 136a(a) and 136q.
- 16. Pursuant to FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §§ 136-136y, the EPA Administrator promulgated regulations governing the labeling requirements for pesticides and devices, which are codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 156.
- 17. Pursuant to Sections 3, 8, 19, and 25 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §§ 136a, 136f, 136q, and 136w, the EPA Administrator promulgated regulations pertaining to standards for pesticide containers and pesticide containment structures ("the Container/Containment Regulations"), which are codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 165 and 40 C.F.R. §§ 156.140-156.159.
- 18. "Agricultural pesticide" means any pesticide product labelled for use in or on a farm, forest, nursery, or greenhouse. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 19. "Containment pad" means any structure that is designed and constructed to intercept and contain pesticides, rinsates, and equipment wash water at a pesticide dispensing area. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 20. "Containment structure" means either a secondary containment unit or a containment pad. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 21. "Establishment" means any site where a pesticidal product, active ingredient, or device is produced, regardless of whether such site is independently owned or operated, and regardless of whether such site is domestic and producing a pesticidal product for export only, or

2.4

whether the site is foreign and producing any pesticidal product for import into the United States. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.

- 22. "Facility" means all buildings, equipment, structures, and other stationary items which are located on a single site or on contiguous or adjacent sites and which are owned or operated by the same person (or by any person who controls, who is controlled by, or who is under common control with such person). 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 23. "Operator" means any person in control of, or having responsibility for, the daily operation of a facility at which a containment structure is located. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 24. "Owner" means any person who owns a facility at which a containment structure is required. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 25. "Pesticide dispensing area" means an area in which pesticide is transferred out of or into a container. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 26. "Produce" means to manufacture, prepare, propagate, compound, or process any pesticide, including any pesticide produced pursuant to Section 5 of the Act, and any active ingredient or device, or to package, repackage, label, relabel, or otherwise change the container of any pesticide or device. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 27. "Producer" means any person, as defined by the Act, who produces any pesticide, active ingredient, or device (including packaging, repackaging, labeling, and relabeling). 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 28. "Refilling establishment" means an establishment where the activity of repackaging pesticide product into refillable containers occurs. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 29. "Refillable container" means a container that is intended to be filled with pesticide more than once for sale or distribution. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 30. "Refiller" means a person who engages in the activity of repackaging pesticide product into refillable containers. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 31. "Repackage" means, for the purposes of this part, to transfer a pesticide formulation from one container to another without a change in the composition of the formulation, the labeling content, or the product's EPA registration number, for sale or distribution. 40 C.F.R. §

Consent Agreement and Final Order *In re Bear River Supply Inc.*

165.3.

- 32. "Secondary containment unit" means any structure, including rigid diking, that is designed and constructed to intercept and contain pesticide spills and leaks and to prevent runoff and leaching from stationary pesticide containers. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 33. "Stationary pesticide container" means a refillable container that is fixed at a single facility or establishment or, if not fixed, remains at the facility or establishment for at least 30 consecutive days, and that holds pesticide during the entire time. 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.

C. ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

- 34. Respondent is a "person" as that term is defined by Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s), and as such is subject to FIFRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
- 35. Respondent is an "owner" and "operator" of two "facilities" that are each "establishments," as those terms are defined by 40 C.F.R. § 165.3, located at: (1) 218 Pleasant Grove Road in Rio Oso, California (the "Pleasant Grove Establishment"); and (2) 348 Swetzer Road in Rio Oso, California (the "Swetzer Road Establishment") (collectively, "the Two Establishments").
- 36. At all times relevant to this CAFO, Respondent was a "refiller" that "repackaged" and dispensed the following "pesticides" at the following "refilling establishments" whose principal business is retail sale, as those terms are defined by 40 C.F.R. § 165.3:
 - a. Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil (EPA Reg. No. 90784-2) at the Pleasant Grove Establishment; and
 - b. Roundup PowerMax (EPA Reg. No. 524-549) at the Swetzer Road Establishment.
- As such, the Two Establishments and the pesticides they repackaged are subject to the Container/Containment Regulations.
- 37. At all times relevant to this CAFO, Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil and Roundup PowerMax were "agricultural pesticides," as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 38. At all times relevant to this CAFO, the Two Establishments included areas used to fill containers with agricultural pesticides and/or areas used to refill stationary tanks with these

pesticides. Each of these areas is both a "pesticide dispensing area" and a "containment pad," as those terms are defined by 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.

- 39. At all times relevant to this CAFO, the Two Establishments included "stationary pesticide containers" with agricultural pesticides and associated "secondary containment units," as those terms are defined by 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 40. Owners or operators of refilling establishments who repackage agricultural pesticides and whose principal business is retail sale and that have a stationary pesticide container or a pesticide dispensing (including container refilling) area must comply with the secondary containment requirements of the Container/Containment Regulations. 40 C.F.R. § 165.80(b)(1).
- 41. The containment pads in the pesticide dispensing areas and the secondary containment units at the Two Establishments were constructed after November 16, 2006 and are each "new containment structures," as that term is defined by 40 C.F.R. § 165.83(a).
- 42. Inspections were conducted by a California Department of Pesticide Regulation ("CDPR") inspector on or about January 12, 2018 at the Two Establishments. Follow-up inspections were conducted by an EPA Region IX inspector on or about November 14, 2019 at the Two Establishments.

PLEASANT GROVE ESTABLISHMENT

COUNTS 1-2: <u>Distribution or Sale of a Misbranded Pesticide</u>

- 43. When pesticide products are stored in bulk containers, whether mobile or stationary, which remain in the custody of the user, a copy of the label or labeling, including all appropriate directions for use, must be securely attached to the container in the immediate vicinity of the discharge control valve. 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(4)(ii)(B). Every pesticide product shall bear a label containing, *inter alia*, the net contents as prescribed in paragraph (d) of this section and the producing establishment number as prescribed in paragraph (f) of this section. 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(1). Pursuant to Section 2(q)(1)(A) of the Act, a pesticide is misbranded if its labeling is false or misleading in any particular including both pesticidal and non-pesticidal claims. 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(5).
 - 44. On or about January 12, 2018, Respondent "distributed or sold" the pesticide,

Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil, in a 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container at the Pleasant Grove Establishment, as that term is defined by Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), by holding the pesticide for distribution, sale, or shipment.

- 45. On or about November 14, 2019, Respondent "distributed or sold" the pesticide, Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil, in a 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container at the Pleasant Grove Establishment, as that term is defined by Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), by holding the pesticide for distribution, sale, or shipment.
- 46. On or about January 12, 2018, and November 14, 2019, Respondent failed to have a label attached to the 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container containing Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil at the Pleasant Grove Establishment that clearly marked or identified the net contents or producing establishment number, as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 156.10(a)(4)(ii)(B) and 156.10(a)(1). Moreover, the presence of multiple producing establishment numbers on the label attached to the 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container containing Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil at the Pleasant Grove Establishment resulted in contradictory or confusing claims that inherently rendered the labeling as "false or misleading" per 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(5).
- 47. Respondent's failure to clearly mark or identify the net contents or producing establishment number on the label attached to the 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container containing Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil at the Pleasant Grove Establishment, as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 156.10(a)(4)(ii)(B) and 156.10(a)(1), as well as the "false or misleading" labeling identified per 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(5), constitutes "misbranding," as that term is defined by Section 2(q)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(q)(1)(A).
- 48. Consequently, on or about January 12, 2018, and November 14, 2019, Respondent's distribution or sale of the pesticide, Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil, in a 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container at the Pleasant Grove Establishment constitutes two violations of Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E), which prohibits a person from distributing or selling a misbranded pesticide.
 - COUNT 3: Failure to Meet Capacity Requirements for a New Secondary Containment Unit
 - 49. New secondary containment units for stationary containers of liquid pesticides must

meet the capacity requirements set forth at 40 C.F.R. § 165.85(c). In particular, new secondary containment units for stationary containers of liquid pesticides, if protected from precipitation, must have a capacity of at least 100% of the volume of the largest stationary pesticide container plus the volume displaced by other containers and appurtenances within the unit. 40 C.F.R. § 165.85(c)(1).

- 50. On or about January 12, 2018, a CDPR inspector observed a new secondary containment unit for a 6,500-gallon stationary container of liquid Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil, protected from precipitation, at the Pleasant Grove Establishment that had a capacity of approximately 8,617 gallons. The Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil secondary containment unit at the Pleasant Grove Establishment needed to have a holding capacity (including other containers and appurtenances) of 10,073 gallons.
- 51. On or about January 12, 2018, Respondent's new Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil secondary containment unit at the Pleasant Grove Establishment failed to have a holding capacity of at least 100% of the volume of the largest stationary pesticide container plus the volume displaced by other containers and appurtenances within the unit, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 165.85(c)(1).
- 52. On or about January 12, 2018, Respondent violated Section 12(a)(2)(S) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(S), by failing to have a holding capacity of at least 100% of the volume of the largest stationary pesticide container plus the volume displaced by other containers and appurtenances within the unit for its new Vistaspray 440 Spray Oil secondary containment unit at the Pleasant Grove Establishment, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 165.85(c)(1).

SWETZER ROAD ESTABLISHMENT

COUNTS 4-5: <u>Distribution or Sale of a Misbranded Pesticide</u>

53. When pesticide products are stored in bulk containers, whether mobile or stationary, which remain in the custody of the user, a copy of the label or labeling, including all appropriate directions for use, must be securely attached to the container in the immediate vicinity of the discharge control valve. 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(4)(ii)(B). Every pesticide product shall bear a label containing, *inter alia*, the net contents as prescribed in paragraph (d) of this section and the

producing establishment number as prescribed in paragraph (f) of this section. 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(1). Pursuant to Section 2(q)(1)(A) of the Act, a pesticide is misbranded if its labeling is false or misleading in any particular including both pesticidal and non-pesticidal claims. 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(5).

- 54. On or about January 12, 2018, Respondent "distributed or sold" the pesticide, Roundup PowerMax, in a 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container at the Swetzer Road Establishment, as that term is defined by Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), by holding the pesticide for distribution, sale, or shipment.
- 55. On or about November 14, 2019, Respondent "distributed or sold" the pesticide, Roundup PowerMax, in a 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container at the Swetzer Road Establishment, as that term is defined by Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), by holding the pesticide for distribution, sale, or shipment.
- 56. On or about January 12, 2018, and November 14, 2019, Respondent failed to have a label attached to the 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container containing Roundup PowerMax at the Swetzer Road Establishment that clearly marked or identified the net contents or producing establishment number, as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 156.10(a)(4)(ii)(B) and 156.10(a)(1). Moreover, the presence of multiple producing establishment numbers on multiple labels attached to the 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container containing Roundup PowerMax at the Swetzer Road Establishment resulted in contradictory or confusing claims that inherently rendered the labeling as "false or misleading" per 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(5).
- 57. Respondent's failure to clearly mark or identify the net contents or producing establishment number on the label attached to the 6,500 gallon bulk stationary pesticide container containing Roundup PowerMax at the Swetzer Road Establishment, as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 156.10(a)(4)(ii)(B) and 156.10(a)(1), as well as the "false or misleading" labeling identified per 40 C.F.R. § 156.10(a)(5), constitutes "misbranding," as that term is defined by Section 2(q)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(q)(1)(A).
- 58. Consequently, on or about January 12, 2018, and November 14, 2019, Respondent's distribution or sale of the pesticide, Roundup PowerMax, in a 6,500 gallon bulk stationary

pesticide container at the Swetzer Road Establishment constitutes two violations of Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E), which prohibits a person from distributing or selling a misbranded pesticide.

COUNTS 6-7: Production of a Pesticide in an Unregistered Establishment

- 59. In calendar years 2018 and 2019, Respondent repackaged the registered pesticide, Roundup PowerMax, at the Swetzer Road Establishment and is therefore a "producer," as that term is defined by Section 2(w) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(w), and 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 60. At all times relevant to this CAFO, Respondent, by repackaging the pesticide, Roundup PowerMax, at the Swetzer Road Establishment, operated a pesticide-producing facility that is an "establishment," as that term is defined by Section 2(dd) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(dd), and 40 C.F.R. § 165.3.
- 61. At all times relevant to this CAFO, Respondent's pesticide-producing establishment known as the Swetzer Road Establishment was not registered with EPA, as required pursuant to Section 7(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e(a).
- 62. By producing the pesticide, Roundup PowerMax, in 2018 and 2019 at the pesticide production establishment known as the Swetzer Road Establishment, which was not registered with EPA, Respondent violated Section 7(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e(a).
- 63. By violating Section 7(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e(a), in 2018 and 2019, Respondent committed two violations of Section 12(a)(2)(L) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(L).

COUNT 8: Failure to Meet Capacity Requirements for a New Containment Pad

- 64. New containment pads in pesticide dispensing areas must meet the capacity requirements set forth at 40 C.F.R. § 165.85(c). In particular, new containment pads in pesticide dispensing areas which have a pesticide container or pesticide-holding equipment with a volume of 750 gallons or greater must have a holding capacity of at least 750 gallons. 40 C.F.R. § 165.85(c)(3).
- 65. On or about January 12, 2018, a CDPR inspector observed a new containment pad located in the Roundup PowerMax pesticide dispensing area at the Swetzer Road Establishment that had pesticide-holding equipment with a volume of 750 gallons or greater. The Roundup

2.4

PowerMax containment pad at the Swetzer Road Establishment had a holding capacity of approximately zero gallons (the loading was done on an unimproved surface).

- 66. On or about January 12, 2018, Respondent's new Roundup PowerMax containment pad at the Swetzer Road Establishment failed to have a holding capacity of at least 750 gallons, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 165.85(c)(3).
- 67. On or about January 12, 2018, Respondent violated Section 12(a)(2)(S) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(S), by failing to have a holding capacity of at least 750 gallons for its new Roundup PowerMax containment pad at the Swetzer Road Establishment, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 165.85(c)(3).

D. RESPONDENT'S ADMISSIONS

68. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(2) and for the purpose of this proceeding, Respondent: (i) admits that EPA has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this CAFO and over Respondent; (ii) neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained in Section I.C of this CAFO; (iii) consents to any and all conditions specified in this CAFO and to the assessment of the civil administrative penalty under Section I.E of this CAFO; (iv) waives any right to contest the allegations contained in this CAFO; and (v) waives the right to appeal the proposed Final Order contained in this CAFO.

E. CIVIL ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY

69. In full and final settlement of the violations specifically alleged in Section I.C of this CAFO, Respondent shall pay a civil administrative penalty of FIFTY THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED, AND SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS (\$50,578). Respondent shall pay this civil penalty within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO. The civil penalty shall be paid by remitting a certified or cashier's check, including the name and docket number of this case, for the amount, payable to "Treasurer, United States of America," (or be paid by one of the other methods listed below) and sent as follows:

Regular Mail:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center

1	PO Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000
2	Wire Transfers:
3	Wire transfers must be sent directly to the Federal Reserve Bank in New
4	York City with the following information: Federal Reserve Bank of New York
5	ABA = 021030004 Account = 68010727
6	SWIFT address = FRNYUS33 33 Liberty Street
7	New York, NY 10045 Beneficiary = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
8	Certified or Overnight Mail:
9	U.S. Bank
10	1005 Convention Plaza Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL
11	ATTN Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63101
12	ACH (also known as Remittance Express or REX):
13	Automated Clearinghouse (ACH) payments to EPA can be made through
14	the U.S. Treasury using the following information:
15	U.S. Treasury REX/Cashlink ACH Receiver ABA = 051036706
16	Account = 31006, Environmental Protection Agency CTX Format Transaction Code 22 – checking
17	Physical location of U.S. Treasury facility:
18 19	5700 Rivertech Court Riverdale, MD 20737
20	Remittance Express (REX) = (866) 234-5681
21	On Line Payment:
22	This payment option can be accessed from the information below:
23	www.pay.gov
24	Enter "SFO 1.1" in the search field Open form and complete required fields
25	If clarification regarding a particular method of payment remittance is
26	needed, contact the EPA's Cincinnati Finance Center at (513) 487-2091.
27	A copy of each check, or notification that the payment has been made by one of the other
28	methods listed above, including proof of the date payment was made, shall be sent with a

transmittal letter, indicating Respondent's name, the case title, and docket number, to the following regular mail or email addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk
Office of Regional Counsel (ORC-1)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
R9HearingClerk@epa.gov

Brandon Boatman
Toxics Section
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division (ENF-2-3)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
boatman.brandon@epa.gov

- 70. Respondent shall not use payment of any penalty under this CAFO as a tax deduction from Respondent's federal, state, or local taxes, nor shall Respondent allow any other person to use such payment as a tax deduction.
- 71. If Respondent fails to pay the assessed civil administrative penalty of FIFTY THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED, AND SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS (\$50,578), as identified in Paragraph 69, by the deadline specified in that Paragraph, then Respondent shall pay a stipulated penalty to EPA of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500) per day in addition to the assessed penalty. Stipulated penalties shall accrue until such time as the assessed penalty and all accrued stipulated penalties are paid and shall become due and payable upon EPA's written request. Failure to pay the civil administrative penalty specified in Paragraph 69 by the deadline specified in that Paragraph may also lead to any or all of the following actions:
- (1) EPA may refer the debt to a credit reporting agency, a collection agency, or to the Department of Justice for filing of a collection action in the appropriate United States District Court. 40 C.F.R. §§ 13.13, 13.14 and 13.33. The validity, amount, and appropriateness of the assessed penalty or of this CAFO is not subject to review in any such collection proceeding.
- (2) The U.S. Government may collect the debt by administrative offset (*i.e.*, the withholding of money payable by the United States to, or held by the United States for, a

2.4

person to satisfy the debt the person owes the U.S. Government), which includes, but is not limited to, referral to the Internal Revenue Service for offset against income tax refunds. 40 C.F.R. §§ 13(C) and 13(H).

- (3) Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 13.17, EPA may either: (i) suspend or revoke Respondent's licenses or other privileges, or (ii) suspend or disqualify Respondent from doing business with EPA or engaging in programs EPA sponsors or funds.
- (4) Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3701 *et seq.* and 40 C.F.R. Part 13, the U.S. Government may assess interest, administrative handling charges, and nonpayment penalties against the outstanding amount that Respondent owes to EPA for Respondent's failure to pay the civil administrative penalty specified in Paragraph 69 by the deadline specified in that Paragraph.
- (a) Interest. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 40 C.F.R. §13.11(a)(1), any unpaid portion of the assessed penalty shall bear interest at the rate established according to 26 U.S.C. § 6621(a)(2) from the effective date of this CAFO, provided, however, that no interest shall be payable on any portion of the assessed penalty that is paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.
- (b) Administrative Handling Charges. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. Section 3717(e)(1) and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b), Respondent shall pay a monthly handling charge, based on either actual or average cost incurred (including both direct and indirect costs), for every month in which any portion of the assessed penalty is more than thirty (30) days past due.
- (c) Nonpayment Penalties. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(2) and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(c), a monthly penalty charge, not to exceed six percent (6%) annually, may be assessed on all debts more than ninety (90) days delinquent.

F. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

72. In executing this CAFO, Respondent certifies that the information it has supplied concerning this matter was at the time of submission, and is at the time of signature to this CAFO, truthful, accurate, and complete; and that Respondent has corrected the violations alleged in Section I.C of this CAFO. Under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, submitting false or misleading

information can result in significant penalties, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing submission of such information.

G. <u>RETENTION OF RIGHTS</u>

- 73. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c), this CAFO only resolves Respondent's liabilities for federal civil penalties for the violations and facts specifically alleged in Section I.C of this CAFO. Nothing in this CAFO is intended to or shall be construed to resolve: (i) any civil liability for violations of any provision of any federal, state, or local law, statute, regulation, rule, ordinance, or permit not specifically alleged in Section I.C of this CAFO; or (ii) any criminal liability. EPA specifically reserves any and all authorities, rights, and remedies available to it (including, but not limited to, injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions) to address any violation of this CAFO or any violation not specifically alleged in Section I.C of this CAFO.
- 74. This CAFO does not exempt, relieve, modify, or affect in any way Respondent's duties to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, rules, ordinances, and permits.

H. ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS

75. Each party shall bear its own attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements incurred in this proceeding.

I. EFFECTIVE DATE

76. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18(b)(3) and 22.31(b), this CAFO shall be effective on the date that the Final Order contained in this CAFO, having been approved and issued by either the Regional Judicial Officer or Regional Administrator, is filed.

J. BINDING EFFECT

- 77. The undersigned representative of Complainant and the undersigned representative of Respondent each certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this CAFO and to bind the party he or she represents to this CAFO.
- 78. The provisions of this CAFO shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and its officers, directors, employees, agents, trustees, servants, authorized representatives, successors, and assigns.

FOR RESPONDENT BEAR RIVER SUPPLY INC.: 1 2 Richard French 04/06/2021 3 RICHARD FRENCH DATE President 4 Bear River Supply Inc. 218 Pleasant Grove Road 5 Rio Oso, CA 95674 6 7 FOR COMPLAINANT EPA: 8 Digitally signed by MATTHEW SALAZAR Date: 2021.04.13 13:30:35 -07'00' **MATTHEW** 4/13/2021 9 SALAZAR **DATE** MATT SALAZAR, P.E. 10 Manager, Toxics Section Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6)
7	
8	
9)
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16)
17	
18	
19)
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	

II. FINAL ORDER

EPA and Bear River Supply Inc. having entered into the foregoing Consent Agreement, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this CAFO (Docket No. FIFRA-09-2021-0041) be entered, and Respondent shall pay a civil administrative penalty in the amount of FIFTY THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED, AND SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS (\$50,578) and comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the Consent Agreement.

STEVEN JAWGIEL JAWGIEL

Digitally signed by STEVEN

Date: 2021.05.03 12:53:30 -07'00'

DATE STEVEN JAWGIEL

Regional Judicial Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that the fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order in the matter of Bear River Supply (FIFRA-09-2021-0041) was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and that a true and correct copy of the same was sent to the following parties:

FOR RESPONDENT:	Richard French President Bear River Supply Inc. 218 Pleasant Grove Road Rio Oso, CA 95674 RFrench@bearriversupply.com
FOR COMPLAINANT:	Brandon Boatman Environmental Enforcement U.S. EPA, Region 9, Pacific Islands Contact Office Prince Kuhio Federal Building 300 Ala Moana Blvd. #5-152 Honolulu, HI 96850 Boatman.Brandon@epa.gov
Date:	
	Steven Armsey Regional Hearing Clerk
	EPA - Region IX